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キャットストリート

Vol. 2

神尾葉子

別冊マーガレット MARGARET COMICS

Cat Street 2

Kamio Youko

3848♦ Shueisha

KINOKUNIYA BOOKSTORES
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Ever since she entered the school, El Liston, Keito's life has begun to change. Recovering from social withdrawal, she has made friends for the first time in seven years. There's Rei, a formerly famous soccer player; Kouichi, a genius with an IQ of 200; and Momiji, a Gothic Lolita. As she slowly starts building new relationships with people, she begins to develop a little passion, and then...?!

MARGARET COMICS 別冊マーガレット

Included Work:
Cat Street Volume 02

"Lui si chiama Rei.
Un tempo Lui è stato un
promettente calciatore.
Ferito nell'orgoglio
è arrivato in un luogo..."

Author's Comment: Kamio Youko

There are many stray cats in my neighborhood, and most of them are black for some reason. When I go outside in the middle of the night, I find them gathering in the dark. Their golden eyes seem to say, "Don't stay up too late". Whenever I see them, I feel sorry yet envious of them.
--Kamio Youko

Cat Street

Chapter 05 Credits

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Cat Street ②

Kamio Youko

For the full story, read Cat Street volume 01 now on sale!

<<Story Until Now>>

Keito, a 16-year-old, is a former child star. When she was 9, she froze onstage and couldn't say her lines. As a result, she left the entertainment business and stopped going to school, withdrawing from society completely. One day, she meets a stranger in town who invites her to visit a "free school" called El Liston. Since Keito has no place she really belongs, she decides to try going to school there. Then she meets Rei, a formerly famous soccer player; Kouichi, a genius with an IQ of 200; and Momiji, a Gothic Lolita. As she becomes friends with them, she gradually starts to open her heart to other people. Keito goes with her friends to eat dinner at Rei's part-time workplace, when she witnesses Rei being taunted by some of his former soccer teammates. She becomes angry and tells them they have no right to ridicule him. Though Rei is fired from his job, he is still extremely happy because his friends supported him.

革命前夜の子猫たち

Cat Street キャットストリート

No.5

大ヒット！カラー43P

Condensation

立ち止まって　また歩き出す

オレンジ色の月に

照らされながら

YOKO KAMIO

神尾葉子

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Kamio Youko
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IT'S 6AM ALREADY?
AFTER SPENDING SO MANY YEARS HOLED UP IN MY ROOM...
I NEVER IMAGINED THAT I'D SEE THE DAY BREAK LIKE THIS...
THE NEXT OUTDOOR EVENT IS IN A COUPLE OF DAYS. I HEARD WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A BARBEQUE AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION CENTER.
I HAVE TO TAKE A BATH.

A BARBEQUE? THAT SOUNDS GREAT.
YOU'RE GOING TOO, RIGHT, KEITO?
YEAH.
KOUICHI AND I LIVE IN THIS DIRECTION.
SO WE'LL SEE YOU LATER.
BYE!
GOOD NIGHT.
BYE.

AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO PLAY THE PRETTY GIRL CHARACTER? WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?!
WAAAH! I DON'T WANNA GO HOOOOME!
?!
LET'S GO...
anxious
I FEEL LIKE WAITING FOR EVERY-ONE AT SCHOOL.
...ARE YOU NUTS?! YOU SHOULD AT LEAST GO HOME AND TAKE A BATH.
REALLY? EVEN AFTER A MONTH OR A YEAR?!
WELL, YOU CAN ALSO DO IT TOMORROW AND THE DAY AFTER THAT.
light's up
HOW PITIFUL, YOU MUST'VE BEEN REALLY LONELY 'TIL NOW...
...I WAVED GOOD-BYE TO EVERYONE! YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW LONG IT'S BEEN SINCE I'VE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
BUT
JUST NOW...

REI...
THANK YOU.
YES, YOU CAN,
EVEN AFTER A MONTH OR A YEAR.
YOU DON'T NEED TO THANK ME ANY-MORE.
I REALLY... MEAN IT.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BRINGING ME HERE...

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GO HOME, THEN WHY DON'T YOU SLEEP WITH ME...?
HUH?
AT YOUR HOUSE?
WHAT TIME ARE YOU GOING TO SCHOOL TODAY?
IN ANOTHER THREE HOURS?
MAN, ARE YOU TRYING TO KEEP ME FROM GETTING ANY SLEEP?
grin
?
Man, she's too naive
IT WAS A JOKE, A JOKE.
OH, CRAP, SHE STILL THINKS LIKE A GRADE-SCHOOLER.
I TOLD YOU TO FORGET ABOUT IT ALREADY.
WELL, COUNT ME OUT!
NEVER MIND. SORRY I MENTIONED IT. I WAS WRONG.
WERE YOU ACTUALLY THINKING OF "GETTING LAID"?
WAIT!
I can't believe she said that

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WELL, I'M REALLY SURPRISED TO RUN INTO YOU GUYS.
OH, NO! I DON'T WANT HIM TO GET THE WRONG IDEA.
N-NO WAY!! THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN. WE'RE NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL.
I ASKED AOYAMA TO INTRODUCE US THE OTHER DAY.
I'M HARASAWA TAIYOU.
I REALLY ADMIRE YOUR SOCCER SKILLS AND THE GUYS ON MY TEAM LOOK UP TO YOU.
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D BE WILLING TO COACH US.
I DON'T PLAY SOCCER ANYMORE.

ARE YOU SERIOUS?! WHY?
HUH?
HEY...
I CAN'T DO IT.
I LOST INTEREST IN IT.
HOW COULD YOU QUIT SO EASILY?
REI...

YOU'VE GOT SO MUCH TALENT...
THAT WE ALL SEE YOU AS AN INSPIRATION.
...IS THIS THE KIND OF PERSON YOU'VE BECOME?
SOMEONE WHO PLAYS ON SUCH A WEAK TEAM WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

I'M DIS-
APPOINTED.
BAM
OW!
HOW COULD
YOU SAY THAT
TO HIM?!

REI ACTED LIKE THAT 'CAUSE IT'S A SORE SUBJECT FOR HIM.
JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE.
WHY'D YOU EVEN BRING IT UP?
ARE YOU JUST SUPPOSED TO TELL HIM YOU FEEL SORRY FOR HIM?
AND THAT IT MUST'VE BEEN HARD?
WHAT ARE YOU ACCOMPLISHING BY LEAVING HIM ALONE?
THEN WHAT?
WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THAT?

IF YOU ASK ME,
YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT EITHER.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO QUIT SCHOOL JUST BECAUSE YOU FROZE ONSTAGE WHEN YOU WERE IN THAT MUSICAL.
...YOU
WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND.

SOMEONE WHO'S SO CAREFREE...
AND WHO'S ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY FRIENDS...
...COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S LIKE FOR ME!
TAIYOU'S MEAN!

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THAT'S HOW HE'S ALWAYS BEEN...
HE DOESN'T THINK ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS AT ALL.
KE TO COME OUT
HARASAWA-kUN S ASK NG FOR YOU
it's OK, Taiyou!
SHE DOESN'T WANNA GO TO SCHOOL WITH ORDINARY PEOPLE LIKE uS.
STOP BUGGING ME
FORGET ABOUT HER.
YOU'VE BEEN STOPPING BY AOYAMA'S HOUSE.
SO, IT'S TRUE!

HE'S ALWAYS MADE ME FEEL MISERABLE ABOUT MYSELF...

NOTHING'S CHANGED

SINCE THEN...

THE MEAT AND VEGETABLES ARE IN THE BOXES NEAR THE ENTRANCE.
SO YOU CAN ALL HELP YOURSELF.
I'M GLAD THE WEATHER'S NICE.
IT'S A PERFECT DAY FOR A BARBEQUE.
LET'S GO, KEITO.
REI...ISN'T COMING.
OKAY.
GLOOMY
IT'S EASY FOR US TO COMFORT REI BY SYMPATHIZING WITH HIM.
BUT WE'RE NOT TELLING HIM WHAT HE REALLY NEEDS TO HEAR.
IF YOU ASK ME, THAT GUY TAIYOU SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PERSON.
HUH? WHY?

HE'S ALWAYS NORMAL AROUND US,
SO I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HE MEANT. .
...UNTIL WE SAW HIM AT THE RESTAURANT THE OTHER DAY.
TH-THAT MAY BE TRUE, BUT...
REI'S TOLD ME BEFORE THAT HE COMES TO SCHOOL FOR REHAB TO WORK ON HIS SOCIAL SKILLS.
HE MIGHT NOT HAVE QUIT SOCCER IF HE'D HAD SOMEONE LIKE TAIYOU AROUND.
Oomph
TAIYOU MAY HAVE COME OFF HARSH, BUT I THINK HE WAS JUST TRYING TO HELP REI IN HIS OWN WAY.

KOUICHI ISN'T COMING AT ALL.
HE NEVER ATTENDS ANY OF THE OUT-DOOR EVENTS
I CREATED A WALL AROUND ME, TOO.
...I
...NEVER THOUGHT OF IT THAT WAY.
I HATE EVERYONE IN MY CLASS.
MOM, YOU'RE MEAN.
Yeah!
I'VE ALREADY TOLD HIM THAT I DON'T WANT TO GO,
BUT HE KEEPS COMING BACK HERE.

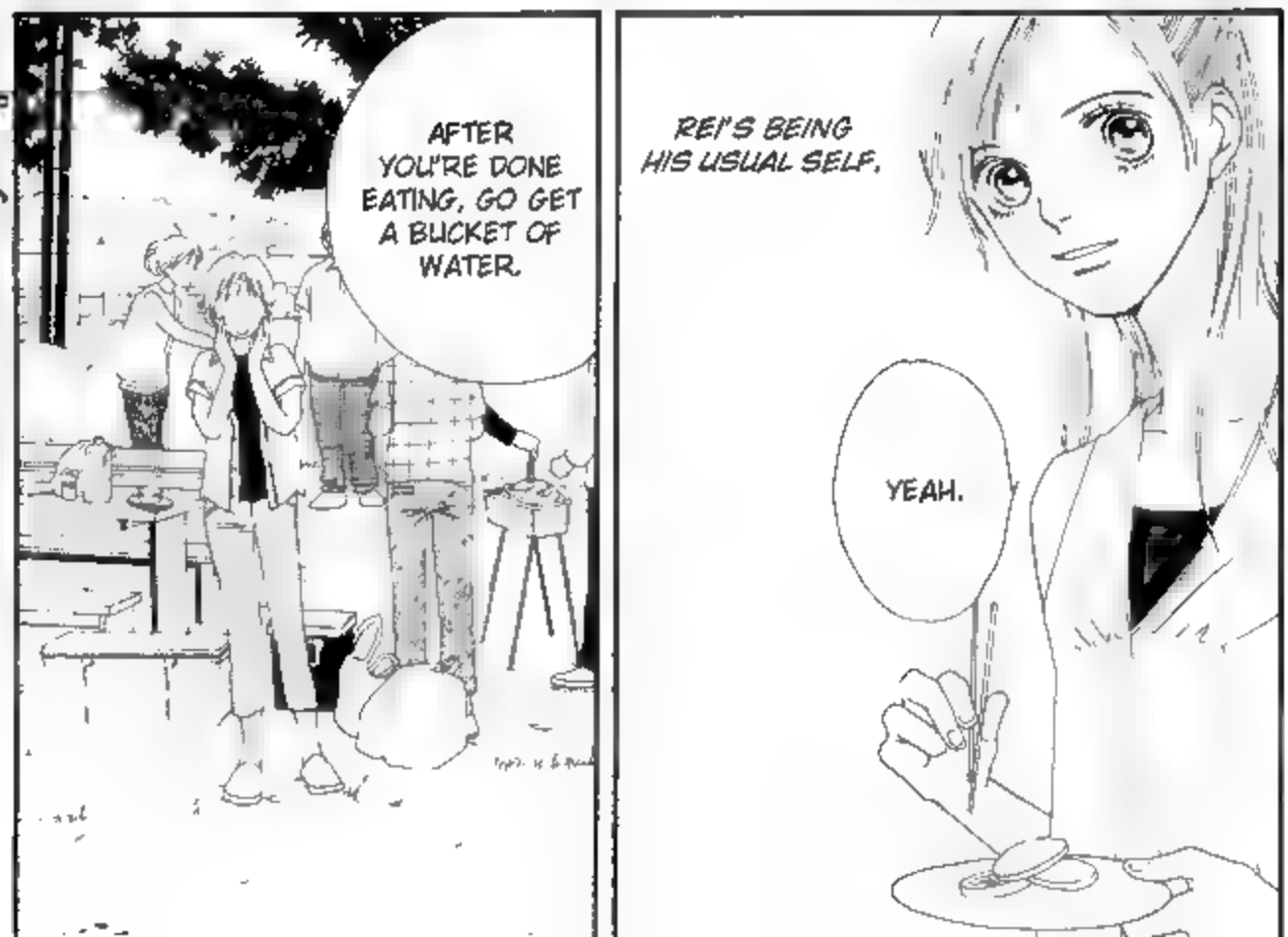
Nooo, to the right!
THEY HAVE A SOCCER FIELD HERE, TOO.
TAIYOU...
GOOD JOB, TAIYOU.
AH...
IT'S TRUE...
WHY WOULD REI TAKE THE TIME TO WATCH A SOCCER GAME?
It's heavy.
LET'S GO, KEITO.
Y-YEAH.

HE MUST STILL FEEL ATTACHED TO IT...
sizzle
WOW, IT LOOKS DELICIOUS. SMELLS GOOD.
IT'S SUMMERTIME. WHAT A GREAT IDEA.
OH, THEY'RE HAVING A BAR-BEQUE.
WHAT HIGH SCHOOL IS THIS? IS IT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD?
I WISH WE COULD DO THIS AT OUR SCHOOL.
Silence
I-I GUESS WE'LL GET GOING.
...?

IT'S NOT TOO FAR FROM HERE.
I-it's called E-EL Liston.
"E-EL" WHAT?
"DON'T GIVE UP, KEITO!"
I NEED TO KEEP UP THE PACE.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
MY LEGS ARE TREMBLING.
OH, IS IT A FOREIGN SCHOOL?
IS FREE SCHOOL LIKE SUMMER SCHOOL?
I-IT'S A FREE SCHOOL.

WOW!
What a hunk
REI.
DOESN'T IT SOUND NICE THOUGH?
IT'S VERY LAID-BACK.
HE'S HERE...
I WAS HOPING THE MEAT WOULD BE READY BY NOW.
LOOKS LIKE I'M JUST IN TIME.
sizzle

YUM!
OH, MAN, I KNEW KOUICHI WOULDN'T SHOW UP.
I WANTED TO SHOVE SOME MEAT INTO THAT SKINNY BODY OF HIS.
HUMPH, YOU'RE ONE TO TALK. YOU DIDN'T EVEN HELP US GET READY.
OF COURSE YOU WILL.
RIGHT, KEITO?
MUNCH
SORRY.
I'LL CLEAN UP THOUGH.



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SO YOU TWO SHOULD GO.
WELL, I'M GONNA CLEAN UP HERE,
Here
OKAY.
grammy
AH... NICE WEATHER LIKE THIS MAKES ME SLEEPY.
YEAH.
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A NEW PART-TIME JOB,
I SEE.
BUT THERE AREN'T ANY GOOD ONES TO CHOOSE FROM.
MAYBE I'LL WORK AT A CONVENIENCE STORE.
CONVENIENCE STORES STAY OPEN LATE, SO IT MIGHT NOT BE AN EASY JOB.
WELL, I'M NOT MUCH OF A NIGHT OWL LIKE YOU.
How do you know that?
...
...

Condensation

HEY! RIGHT THERE!
REI?
YOU ALWAYS LOOK LIKE YOU DON'T GET MUCH SLEEP...
WHOA!
ALL RIGHT!

HE'S DONE OVER 80 JUGGLES NOW!
RE-CHAN, YOU'RE AMAZING!
I DON'T WANT SHOUTA TO GIVE UP BEFORE HE EVEN START
YOU KNOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR OUR TEAM TO MAKE IT TO NATIONALS
THAT'S RIGHT, SENPAI.*
WE'LL BE PLAYING OUT OF OUR LEAGUE AT THE PREFECTURAL CHAMPIONSHIP

*In this case, senpai refers to an upperclassman or older teammate.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Condensation

AFTER ALL, WE'VE GOT SAEKI RE PLAYING FOR OUR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

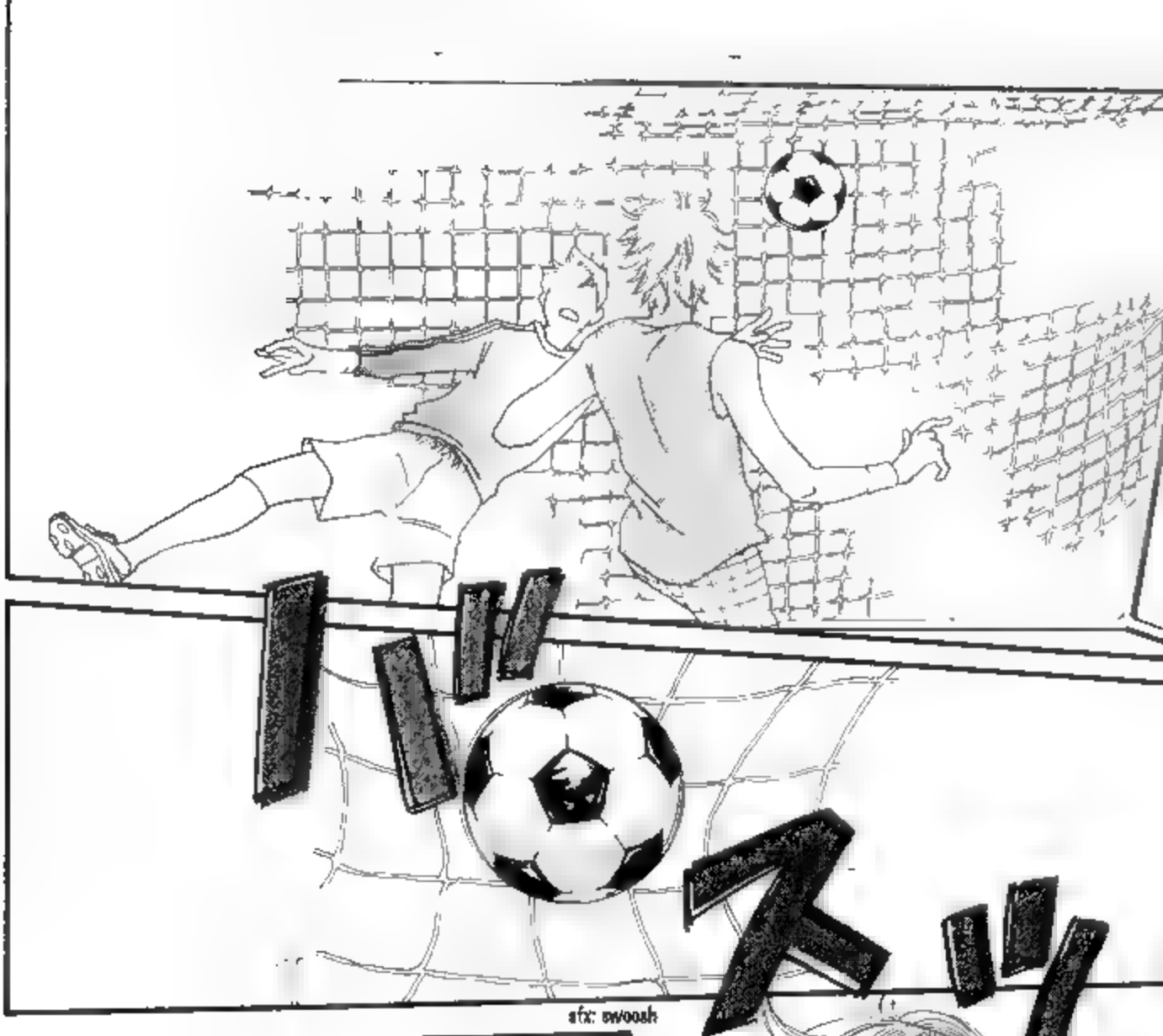
IT'S SAEKI!
sfx. kick
?!
SAEKI REI?!
WHY'S HE HERE?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, TAIYOU?!
grammy

GOAL
sfx thud
DON'T LET HIM THROUGH, DEFENSE!
WHOA, IS HE SERIOUS?

grammy
WOW, HE GOT PAST THEM.
WHO'S THAT?
grammy

grammy
IT'S NO GOOD!
SOMEONE, STOP HIM!


sfx: swoosh

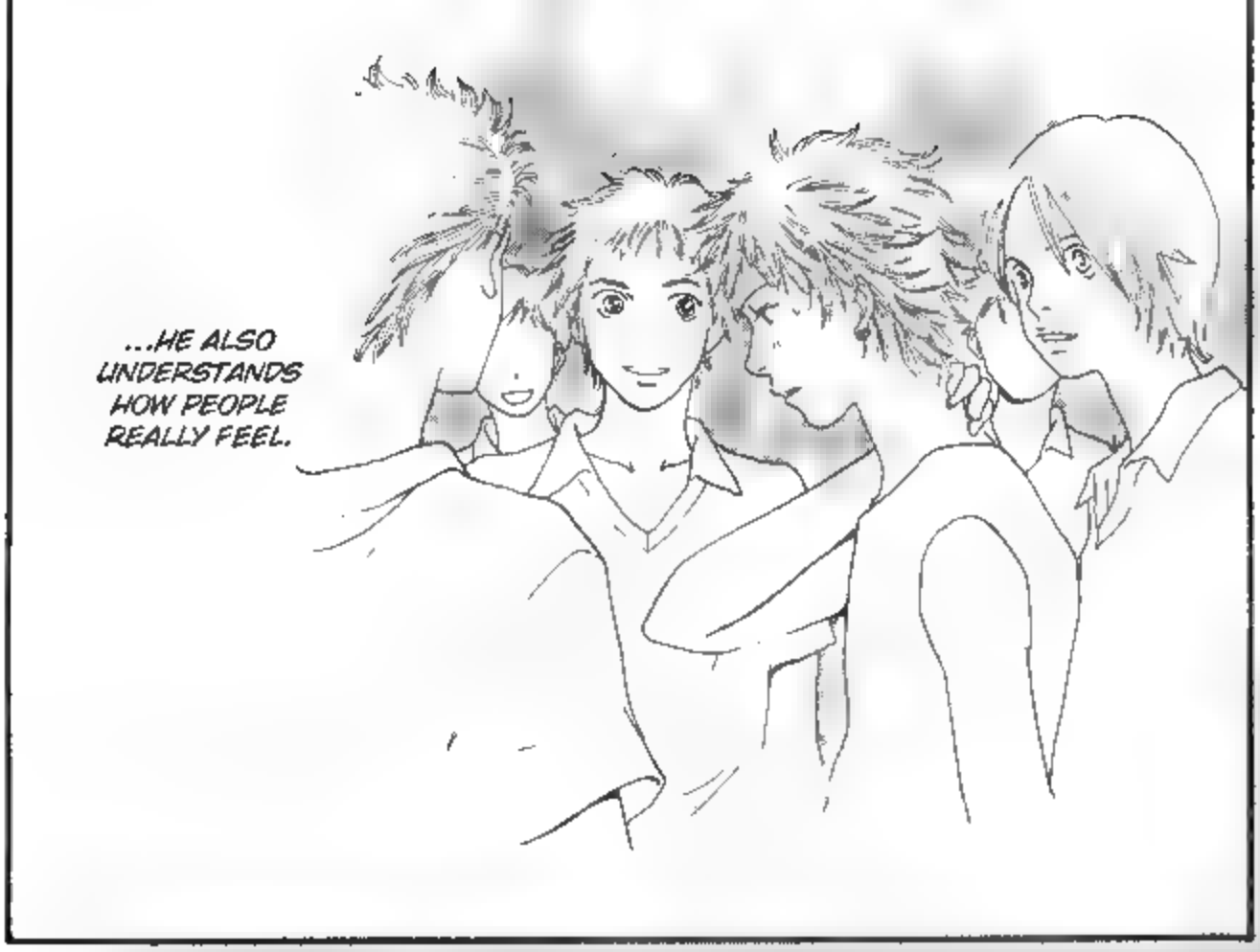
WOW
grammy
AWESOME! HE'S THE REAL THING.
REI...

REI, YOU'RE AMAZING.
THAT WAS TOUGH...
MAN..
I REALLY LOVE THIS GAME.
I STILL WANT TO PLAY SOCCER.

SAEKI-SAN IS GONNA BE
OUR NEW COACH.

ALL RIGHT!!
S-SERIOUSLY?
WE CAN HANDLE THAT.
YEAH!
WAIT!
YOU SHOULD KNOW...
...THAT MY PERSONALITY CHANGES WHEN I PLAY SOCCER.

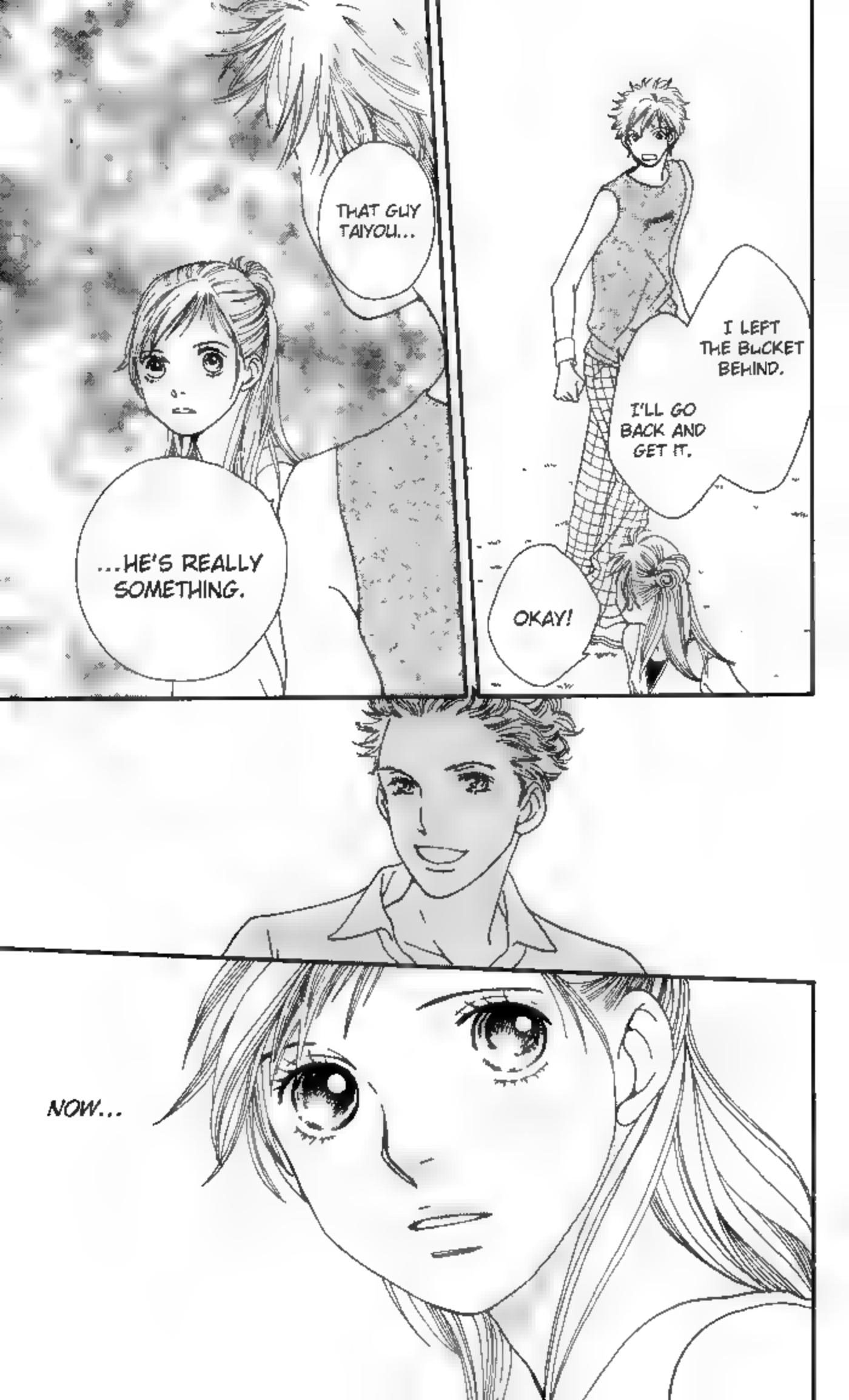
I'M VERY PERSISTENT, YOU KNOW.
YOU CAN REFUSE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT,
BUT I WON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER.
IT'S TRUE THAT HE'S PERSISTENT,
BUT...
...THANKS.


...HE ALSO UNDERSTANDS HOW PEOPLE REALLY FEEL.

BUT YOU WERE GREAT, REI.
YOU TOTALLY SURPRISED ME.

MY LEGS ARE OUT OF SHAPE.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE RUN LIKE THAT.

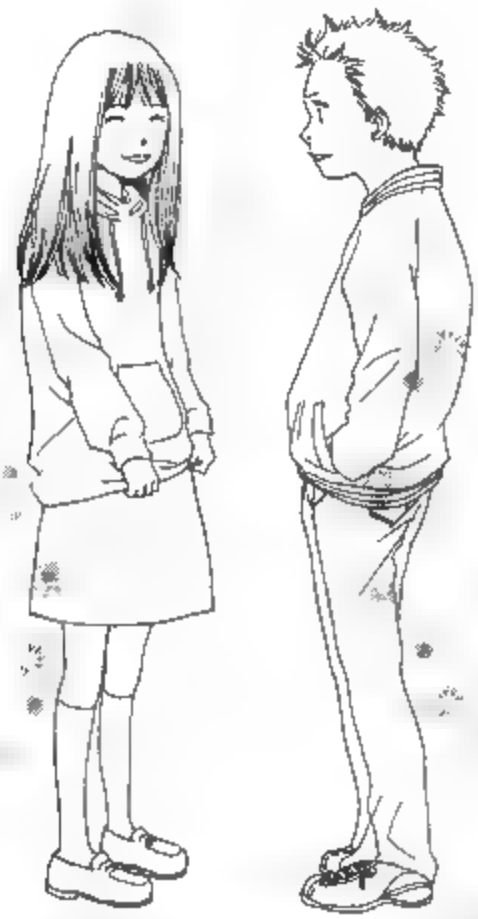
I'D NEVER PLAY SOCCER AGAIN.
ALL THIS TIME I'VE BEEN THINKING,
OH, NO!
CRAP, I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT IT.
HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET A BUCKET OF WATER?!
HEEEY!
SOOORRY!
EVERYONE ALREADY LEFT!


THAT GUY TAIYOU...
...HE'S REALLY SOMETHING.
I LEFT THE BUCKET BEHIND.
I'LL GO BACK AND GET IT.
OKAY!
NOW...

I CAN FINALLY SAY,

"THANK YOU FOR COMING TO GET ME,"

WITH A SMILE ON MY FACE.



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GO TO THE RIGHT! THE RIGHT! CAN'T YOU SEE THE OFFENSE COMING?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOU IDIOT?!
THAT DRIBBLING WOULDN'T STOP A FLY!
JUST FORGET IT, GUYS!
GO AWAY!

You idiot!!
Ahhh!
...
Get out of here!
...I'm beginning to understand...
...why he was an outcast on his former team.
Achoooo!
Sorry!
Okay!
Oh,
That looks better.
Hold that position and move to the right of the field.
Yes!
But Rei looks great...

Wow
I did it!
Rei-san!
ALL RIGHT. GOOD JOB!
KEEP THAT UP.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO FULL OF ENERGY.
OH, YOU GUYS ACTUALLY CAME.
YEAH, WE JUST GOT HERE. WE CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE WORKING REALLY HARD.
HE'S GOT A BIT OF A POTTY MOUTH. BUT OTHER THAN THAT, HE'S THE BEST COACH.
WE DIDN'T HAVE A COACH BEFORE, SO WE'RE LEARNING A LOT FROM HIM.
It was rude of me.
REALLY? I'M SORRY I GOT EXCITED AND SWORE LIKE THAT ESPECIALLY SINCE SOME OF YOU ARE OLDER THAN ME.
NO PROBLEM.

YEAH?
AQUA
TAIYOU...
BLU
SH
ACK!
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TH-THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
M-MY FACE!!
...
TURNS AWAY

KEITO IS... SO EASY TO FIGURE OUT.
Aoyama!
I SAID THANKS! HOW ABOUT GIVING ME A REPLY?!
Shut up!
HEY, YOU SHOULD LOOK AT ME WHEN YOU SPEAK TO ME.
BUT THANKS FOR INTRODUCING HIM TO US.
TAIYOU, SHOULD I LEAVE THE SOCCER BALLS I BUFFED HERE?
SHE'S THE GIRL I SAW...
..AT TAIYOU'S HOUSE THE OTHER DAY..
AH...

AOYAMA, YOU TWO HAVE ALREADY MET, RIGHT?
HI.
SHE BECAME THE TEAM'S MANAGER LAST WEEK.
*A famous British soccer player
I KNOW YOU JUST THINK THAT BECKHAM IS CUTE.*
Yeah, yeah.
I TOLD YOU I GOT EXCITED AFTER WATCHING THAT DVD I BORROWED FROM YOU!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I SAID.
MANAGER...?
SHE HAS NO CLUE ABOUT SOCCER, BUT SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO DO IT.
H-
HI.
OKAY, OKAY.
AT LEAST TRY TO LEARN THE RULES
JEEZ, I TOLD YOU I'M STUDYING THEM NOW.
Intro to Soccer
DOESN'T...

ROAR
...UNFAIR?
SHE'S SO OBVIOUS.
..THAT SEEM...
SHUDDER
ROOOAR
I THINK SO,
BUT...
I SEE.
IS SHE TAIYOU'S FRIEND?
OH, THAT GIRL?
HIRANO-SAN, RIGHT?
IT'S OBVIOUS WHO SHE BECAME THE MANAGER FOR.
RIGHT, KEITO?
I THINK SHE STARTED ABOUT THE SAME TIME I BECAME THE R COACH.

I...
I DON'T CARE!
IT DOESN'T CONCERN ME.
Yeah!
WHILE YOU'RE WASTING TIME SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT, SHE'S GONNA BE AGGRESSIVE AND MAKE A MOVE ON HIM.
JUST GO AFTER HIM DURING PRACTICE. YOU CAN PRETEND THAT YOU'RE VISITING REI.
YEAH.
WAIT! WHY DO I HAVE TO BE HER EXCUSE?!
She should be there to support me!
WHY AM I SO UPSET ABOUT THIS?

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KEITO, I WANT YOU TO HANG OUT WITH ME TONIGHT.
CAN YOU SEE HIM, KEITO?
HE'S THE ONE TO THE FAR RIGHT.
YEAH, I CAN SEE HIM.
YEP. ISN'T HE CUTE?
IS HE THE GUY YOU LIKE?

I THOUGHT MY HEART WOULD STOP WHEN HE WAS SEATED NEXT TO ME.
WHEN I WENT TO THIS HIGH SCHOOL, WE WERE IN THE SAME CLASS TOGETHER.
ACK!
OH, NO! HE'S COMING THIS WAY!
LET'S GO, KEITO!
OKAY!
DO YOU ALWAYS COME SEE HIM LIKE THIS?
YEAH, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.
YOU WANT TO SEE THE PERSON YOU LIKE EVERY DAY, RIGHT?
TO BE HONEST, I WISH THAT WERE POSSIBLE.

HER EXCITEMENT IS CONTAGIOUS, THOUGH.
MOMIJI IS TOO CUTE.
RIGHT, I'LL HELP YOU.
THANKS!
I HAVE TO FINISH THAT DRESS SOON AND CONFESS MY LOVE TO HIM.
WELL, I'M NOT REALLY SURE OF MY FEELINGS YET.
MY HEART POUNDS WHENEVER I SEE TAIYOU, BUT...
I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS, SINCE...
YOU SHOULD TRY HARD, TOO!
GO WATCH TAIYOU PRAC-TICE.
WHO? ME?

...I'VE NEVER BEEN IN LOVE BEFORE.
...REI'S AT SOCCER PRACTICE.
MOMIJI IS OUT SICK WITH A COLD.
THAT'S WHAT SHE ASKED ME TO TELL YOU.
click
clack
'MORNING.
ARE REI AND MOMIJI HERE?

WHILE YOU'RE WASTING TIME SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT SHE'S GONNA BE AGGRESSIVE AND MAKE A MOVE ON HIM.
Stare
CLICK
CLACK
CLICK
HMM...
...
GO BY YOURSELF.
WHY DON'T YOU PLAY WITH YOUR COMPUTER OUTSIDE?
..
AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I'VE HEARD.
IT'S AN AGE-OLD SAYING THAT A LITTLE SUNSHINE IS GOOD FOR YOU.
YOU'LL TURN MOLDY IF YOU STAY IN HERE.
YOU SHOULD GO OUTSIDE MORE...

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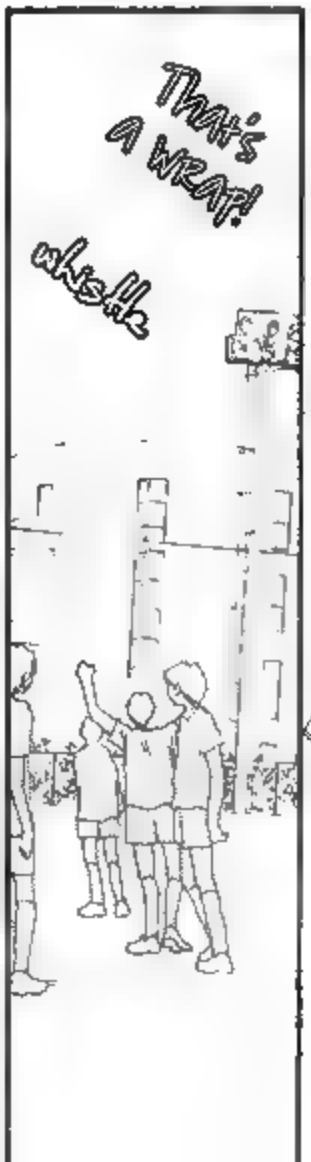
THERE'S REI.
Save it
SAEKI-SAAAN!
CAN I ASK YOU ABOUT A FEW PLAYS?
I'LL LEAVE THE DRINKS HERE.
HIRANO, DID YOU WASH OUR WORKOUT CLOTHES?
I JUST HUNG THEM UP
WE'RE HAVING NICE WEATHER, SO THEY SHOULD DRY IN AN HOUR OR SO.

Oh, wow.
You're so considerate.
It's better having a bunch of guys than just around.
I HAVE HONEY LEMON, TOO.
THANKS.
GOOD JOB.
Hirano-chaan, thanks!
TWITCH

SEEING THEM SMILE SO BRIGHTLY LIKE THAT...
MAKES ME FEEL EVEN MORE LIKE I DON'T BELONG HERE.
SLIDE
click
clack
click
click
clack

OH,
I REMEMBER THIS GAME!
WHERE'D YOU GET THIS?!
CLICK
OH! IT MOVED.
DO I PLAY AGAINST THE COMPUTER?!
I MADE IT.
YOU'RE KIDDING!
HOW'D YOU MAKE THIS?
JAVASCRIPT.



...THANK YOU, KOUICHI.

SERIOUSLY, WHAT AM I DOING HERE...?
...I'LL MAKE AN EASIER GAME FOR YOU NEXT TIME.
HUH?
YOU PLAN ON COMING AGAIN TOMORROW, RIGHT?
KOUICHI... HE REALLY IS A GREAT GUY.
OH!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU TWO WERE HERE.
HEY, TAIYOU!
C'MERE FOR A 'SEC.
NO ONE WILL NOTICE YOU IF YOU JUST SIT IN THE CORNER LIKE THIS.

TAIYOU, CAN YOU TAKE HER HOME?
YEAH.
WHAT ?!
OH, ARE YOU HERE TO CHEER FOR SAEKI-SAN?
IT'S FINE. WE LIVE IN THE SAME NEIGHBOR-HOOD, SO LET'S JUST GO TOGE-THER.
I-I CAN GET HOME BY MYSELF.
IT'S TOO SOON FOR THIS!
I'M GONNA CHANGE FIRST, SO WAIT HERE FOR A BIT.

THANKS, SAEKI-SAN.
YOU DID WELL TODAY.
I'M REALLY NERVOUS NOW!
TAIYOU, SAEKI-SAN, DO YOU WANNA HAVE RAMEN WITH US TODAY?
OH, I'M SORRY. I'M GOING HOME WITH A FRIEND.
YOU MEAN HIRANO-CHAN?
NO.
HEY, DON'T CHEAT ON YOUR GIRL-FRIEND!
GIMME A BREAK. THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M DOING.
OKAY, I'M OUTTA HERE! SEE YOU LATER.
LATER.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Condensation

I'M GOING HOME WITH AOYAMA TODAY, SO I'LL CALL YOU LATER.
HIRANO,
OKAY.
OH?
YOU DIDN'T KNOW, SAEKI-SAN?
HUH?
WAIT A SECOND.
ARE THOSE TWO...

I THINK THEY STARTED GOING OUT

ABOUT THREE DAYS AGO.

AOYAMA, I HEARD FROM SAEKI-SAN

THAT YOU GO TO SCHOOL NOW.

#Condensation@irc.rchighway.net

I ALWAYS FALL ASLEEP IN SCHOOL.
That's the way it usually is.
YEAH, BUT I'M JUST GOING FOR FUN.
PAA
I REMEMBER THAT.
YOU USED TO DOZE OFF IN GRADE SCHOOL, TOO.
I WAS WORKING 'TIL MIDNIGHT BACK THEN SO I COULDN'T STAY AWAKE.
AOYA-MA!
HARA-SANA!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I REMEMBER A TIME WHEN THE TEACHER YELLED AT BOTH OF US.
sits
WAKE UP!
UP!

HOLY CRAP.
WH...
WHAT?
YOU ACTUALLY LAUGHED
YOU'VE REALLY CHANGED!
Grumpy?
YOU'VE LOOKED GRUMPY EACH TIME I'VE SEEN YOU.
I GUESS THINGS ARE GOING WELL FOR YOU NOW.
I'M SO GLAD.

YEAH.
OH, WAIT HERE.
LET ME GO AND GET IT.
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO GIVE YOU.
MY LIFE IS CHANGING...
...SO DRASTICALLY.
EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE HAPPENING AT ONCE

HERE.
I KEPT THIS, BUT I'VE BEEN MEANING TO GIVE IT TO YOU FOR A LONG TIME.
IT ALMOST MAKES ME DIZZY...
I GUESS YOU DON'T REMEMBER.
WE HAD TO DO TIME CAPSULES BACK IN GRADE SCHOOL.
A BOTTLE...?
DID YOU KNOW THAT I WENT TO YOUR HOUSE SEVERAL TIMES AFTER YOU STOPPED GOING TO SCHOOL?
YOU LEFT THIS ON YOUR DESK.

NEXT WEEK, WE'RE GOING TO BURY TIME CAPSULES.
PLEASE WRITE A LETTER TO YOURSELF AND PUT IT IN A BOTTLE.
I WANTED TO GIVE THAT TO YOU.
I don't know what to write
Hmm, what should I write?

A LETTER TO MYSELF THAT I'LL READ IN TEN YEARS...?

AT THAT TIME, I WASN'T GOING TO SCHOOL VERY MUCH. I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE BEEN INVISIBLE, SINCE NO ONE EVEN NOTICED WHEN I WAS ACTUALLY IN CLASS.

I DON'T EVEN CARE.
...YOU'VE HELD ONTO THIS...
...ALL THIS TIME?
WELL, TO BE HONEST, I FORGOT WHERE I PUT IT SO IT TOOK ME FOREVER TO FIND IT.
It was in the corner of my closet.
OH, NO...

YOU MIGHT NOT APPRECIATE HAVING IT BACK NOW, THOUGH.
I...
...LIKE HIM...
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?

I REALLY LIKE HIM.
I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO COME OUT.
I'M SORRY!
IT'S OKAY! DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
I HAD MY OWN REASONS FOR SEEING YOU, TOO!
I COULD SEE YOU FROM MY WINDOW...
...WHENEVER YOU STOPPED BY.
YOUR OWN REASONS?

I...I GUESS IT'S OKAY TO TELL YOU SINCE IT'S IN THE PAST NOW.

...
?

...LIKED YOU.
BACK THEN... I REALLY...

SO I WANTED YOU TO GO TO SCHOOL...
Condensation

Condensation
SHOOT, I TOLD YOU NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT ANYMORE, DIDN'T I?
MAN, WHAT AM I SAYING?
BUT YOU SHOULD'VE COME OUT WHEN YOU SAW ME WAITING FOR YOU!
IT TOOK A LOT OF COURAGE FOR A YOUNG BOY LIKE ME TO STOP BY A GIRL'S HOUSE EVERY DAY.
SORRY, I'LL TAKE YOU HOME NOW.
OH, THAT'S OKAY. IT'S RIGHT OVER THERE.
REALLY?
OKAY THEN, YOU SHOULD COME WATCH US PRACTICE AGAIN.
SAEKI-SAN WOULD LIKE THAT, TOO.
'KAY, SEE YOU LATER.

BANG
TAIYOUbee
...LIKED ME...?

Hello!
This is Kamio.

Thank you for purchasing Volume 2!

One of my first thoughts when I started Cat Street was...

Because I had to color the main characters' hair for over ten years with my last series.

When I had all 4 out at the same time, the pages would look so dark...

It feels like Keito's hair is getting thinner and thinner every day...

HOW DOES HE FEEL ABOUT ME NOW...?
KEITO,
DON'T COME TO PRACTICE ANYMORE.

You'll distract me—
'CAUSE...
HUH?
...THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU TO DO.
DISTRACT YOU...? YOU DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE I WAS THERE YESTERDAY.
WHY?
MOMIJI AND KOUICHI ARE ALREADY COMING TODAY.
SO,
JUST DON'T COME ANYMORE.

FORGET ABOUT HIM. LET'S GO.
OKAY.
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
WHY'D HE CHANGE HIS ATTITUDE SO SUDDENLY?
HE'S SO NASTY!
WASN'T THERE A CONVENIENCE STORE OVER HERE?
He's not a grade-schooler.
I'M GOING TO PICK SOMETHING UP FOR HIM.
HE'S PROBABLY JUST MOODY 'CAUSE HE'S HUNGRY.
HUH? HOW I FEEL?
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL NOW.
MOMIJI,

Seven Seas
REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID WHEN WE VISITED YOUR OLD HIGH SCHOOL THE OTHER DAY?

LOOK!
Condensation

I'LL CARRY THAT HAND IT TO ME.
OH, THANKS.
TAIYOU, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE FREE NEXT WEEK?
YEAH, WE DON'T HAVE PRACTICE FOR A FEW DAYS,
SO LET'S GO SOME-WHERE.
REALLY?! IT'S OKAY IF YOU'RE TOO BUSY.

IT'S FINE, BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN ON A DATE BEFORE,
SO I'M NOT SURE WHERE WE SHOULD GO.
I DON'T CARE AS LONG AS I'M WITH YOU.
I'LL GO ANY-WHERE WITH THE PERSON I LIKE.
Uah!
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT.
IT'S EMBARRAS-SING.
BUT...

CAT STREET Vol.06/FIN

THE CONDENSATION RELEASE--AS PURE AS YOU CAN GET IT--WITHOUT READING JAPANESE.

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Cat Street

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For silver deeds; a cut-and-paste birthday (+ poem)!

May you meet a bishounen worthy of your dreams in a dress that has the perfect seams.

May you have your cake covered in cream, and presents from others that are not fake but from the heart.

May you have roman candles to blast your wish into the sky.

And assuming that you wished for some alone time with your bishounen, we at Condensation wish you privacy for the best night possible! *chu*

Condensation Scanlations
chu
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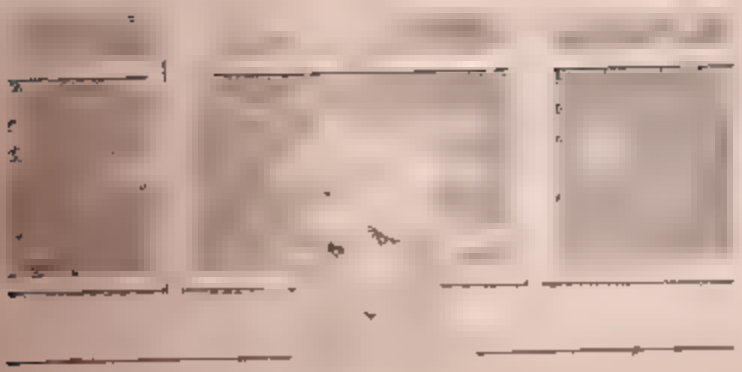


I don't care as long as I'm with you.
I'll go anywhere with the person I like.

...WHAT?
THOSE TWO ARE DATING?
But I've never been on a date before,
so I'm not sure where we should go

YEAH, LET'S DO THAT, KEITO!
OKAY?
WHY DON'T WE...
GO BACK TO SCHOOL FOR NOW?
UH...
I CAN'T... SPEAK...

WHAT...
MY VOICE WON'T WORK.
...JUST HAPPENED?

...WHAT IS THIS FEELING?
KEITO,
ARE YOU OKAY?
KEITO?!
LAST NIGHT...
I'LL GO BUY HER SOME BOTTLED WATER.
KEITO!
Ugh!
ARE YOU GOING TO BE SICK?

AND I FOUND OUT THAT HE LIKED ME WHEN WE WERE IN GRADE SCHOOL...
...I REALIZED THAT I LIKE TAIYOU.
I'LL ASK IF YOU CAN USE THEIR BATHROOM.
WAIT HERE.
KOUICHI, WHERE'S THE SALES CLERK?!
HE'S IN THE BACK GETTING CHANGE.
EXCUSE ME.
...SO I WAS...
OH, I'M SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING
...REALLY HAPPY.

KEITO,
HE SAID YOU COULD USE THE BATHROOM.
KEITO?
TAIYOU,
DO YOU LIKE HER?

WHY DO YOU TWO HAVE TO SHOW UP TOGET-HER?
HEY!
ARE YOU TRY-ING TO RUB IT IN THAT YOU HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?
TAIYOU CARRIED THE BAGS FOR ME.
WE BOUGHT DRINKS FOR EVERYONE
AND ALSO GOT SOME BANDAGES, WRAPS, AND OTHER THINGS, TOO.
SAEKI-SAN!

Rei,
I don't know what to do!
Ke to's disap pear ed!
YOUR PHONE'S RINGING.
SORRY, GUYS.
I HAVE TO LEAVE PRACTICE EARLY TODAY.
A FRIEND OF MINE IS MISSING AND I HAVE TO HELP FIND HER.
WHAT?! WEREN'T YOU GONNA SHOW US HOW TO IMPROVE OUR FREE KICK SKILLS?
I'LL BE BACK TOMOR-ROW.
Why?
MISSING?
MAYBE YOUR FRIEND JUST NEEDED TO BE ALONE FOR A WHILE.

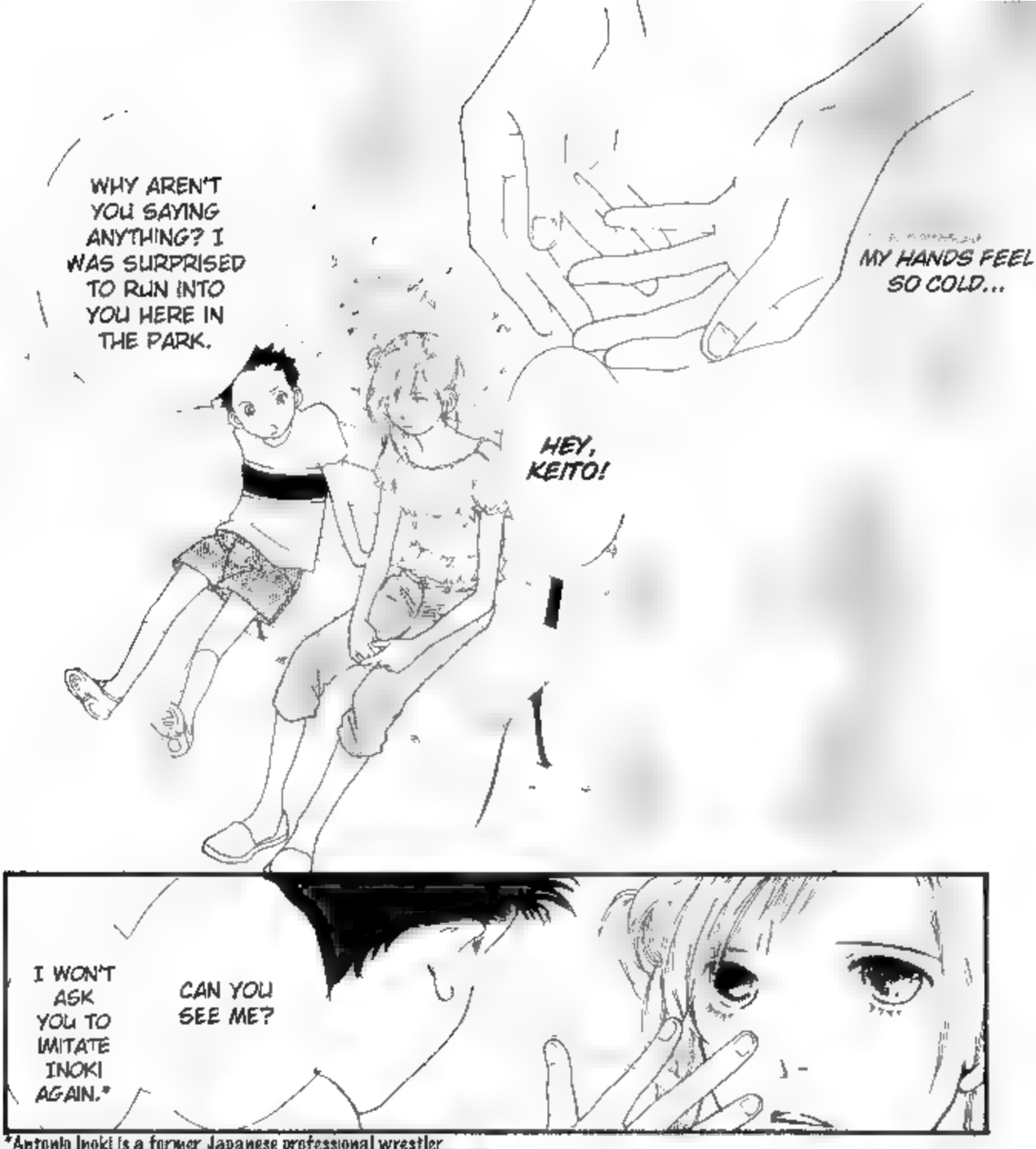
OH, SAEKI-SAN,
I'M GONNA PICK UP SOME MORE SUPPLIES FOR THE TEAM.
IS THERE ANYTHING WE NEED ...?
WHAT? SAEKI-SAN ISN'T STAYING TODAY?
THAT MIGHT BE TRUE FOR SOME PEOPLE, BUT KEITO ISN'T NOR-MAL!
DAMN IT!

THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!
WE WERE HOPING SHE'D BE HERE AT THE SCHOOL, BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF HER.
REI!
AND WE DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE LIVES.

DO YOU THINK KEITO'S ALL RIGHT?
REI,
I'VE BEEN TO HER NEIGHBORHOOD BEFORE.
LET'S CHECK THE NAME PLATES ON THE GATES FOR THE RIGHT HOUSE.
BUT,
KEITO'S JUST GETTING USED TO BEING AROUND PEOPLE AGAIN. THIS MAY BE TOO MUCH FOR HER TO HANDLE.
...MOST PEOPLE WOULD THINK
THAT THIS ISN'T A BIG DEAL.

IT'S SIMILAR TO WHAT HAPPENS WITH A COMPUTER VIRUS.
A SINGLE INFECTED FILE HAS THE POWER TO DESTROY THE WHOLE SYSTEM.
RIGHT.
ANYWAY, LET'S HURRY.

IT'S JUST LIKE THAT TIME.
YOU'RE CREEPY.
EVERYTHING SEEMS DISTORTED...



*Antonio Inoki is a former Japanese professional wrestler

FIRST, THAT GIRL TOLD NII-CHAN THAT SHE LIKED HIM.
I OVERHEARD THEM TALKING HERE!
HE'S GOING OUT WITH THAT GIRL!
THE ONE YOU MET AT OUR HOUSE BEFORE!
THEN, NII-CHAN TOLD HER...
...THAT HE LIKED HER, TOO!
NII-CHAN'S FACE GOT SO RED THAT RIKUTO AND I COULDN'T STAND TO WATCH ANY-MORE.

WE TOLD HIM THAT WE WANTED HIM TO GO OUT WITH YOU.
OH?
I like you too.
KEITO?
HEY, KEITO!

I like you, too.

ding dong
ding dong
I'M COMING!
vrrrrr
HELLO, ARE YOU AOYAMA KEITO'S MOTHER?
IS KEITO HOME?
WE'RE FRIENDS OF HERS FROM SCHOOL.
S...SCHOOL?
YOU MEAN FROM GRADE SCHOOL?
NO, FROM THE FREE SCHOOL SHE GOES TO NOW.

THANK YOU.
SHE'S NOT HERE. LET'S GO.
SHE'S NOT HOME RIGHT NOW.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
FREE...?
PLEASE WAIT!
DOES SHE GO TO SCHOOL NOW?

SORRY, MA'AM,
BUT THAT'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD ASK KEITO YOURSELF!
AREN'T YOU HER MOTHER?
C'MON, MOMIJI.
SHOULDN'T YOU ALREADY KNOW?

WHERE SHOULD WE LOOK NEXT?
SO...
PARENTS ARE USUALLY LIKE THAT.
JUST THIS MORNING SHE WAS SMILING AND LAUGHING.
...WHERE COULD SHE HAVE GONE?

MAN, SHE SEEMS REALLY OUT OF IT, DOESN'T SHE?
LET'S GO HANG OUT AT A KARAOKE CLUB.
HEY, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
LET'S JUST TAKE HER AND GO.
SEE? I TOLD YOU THIS WOULD HAPPEN.

AM I REALLY HERE? IT FEELS LIKE YOU CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME.
NOTHING GOOD COMES FROM GOING OUTSIDE.
ha ha ha
AWE-SOME!
EH? SEE-THRU?
YOU MEAN YOUR UNDER-WEAR?
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO.
WHY DO YOU WANT TO LET YOURSELF GET HURT?
I'M BECOMING INVISIBLE...

...AND MELTING AWAY.
GO AWAY.
HUH? THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
HEY!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HER?
I'M CALLING THE COPS!
NO! SHE'S MY FRIEND.

HELP!
SHIT! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
THUD
ARE YOU OKAY?

AOYAMA-SAN.
I THOUGHT IT WAS YOU,
WE'VE MET A FEW TIMES, RIGHT?
I GO TO SCHOOL WITH TAI-YOU.
SLAP
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? CAN YOU STA--
LEAVE ME ALONE.

COME ON! GET UP!
GRAB
LET'S GO TO THAT PARK OVER THERE.
HOW CAN I?!
H...
COME ON!
YOU'LL JUST BE IN THE WAY IF YOU STAY HERE!

I HATE HER.

DO YOU NEED ANY-THING?
DO YOU WANT SOME-THING TO DRINK?
GET OUT OF MY FACE.
WELL, I...
I HATE YOU.
GO AWAY.

TAIYOU ALWAYS TALKS ABOUT YOU!
...I HATE YOU, TOO!
I WANTED TO WALK HOME WITH HIM YESTER-DAY,
BUT HE LEFT WITH YOU INSTEAD!
I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT!
BUT THAT'S JUST THE WAY HE IS
UNLIKE YOU, I WORK-ED HARD TO GET HIM TO NOTICE ME
BECAUSE I REALLY LIKED HIM.

I EVEN RENTED A DVD ABOUT HIS FAVORITE SOCCER TEAM.
I PRE-TENDED IT WAS A COIN-CIDENCE WHEN-EVER I RAN INTO HIM.
WHY CAN'T I ...BE WITH HIM?
I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING TO MAKE HIM MINE
I'VE JUST BEEN WAITING FOR HIM TO COME TO ME.
SHE'S RIGHT.

TAIYOU!
AM I...
NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM?

A NORMAL GIRL WOULDN'T CRY IN FRONT OF HER RIVAL LIKE THIS.

HIRANO-SAN LOOKS SHOCKED.

BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

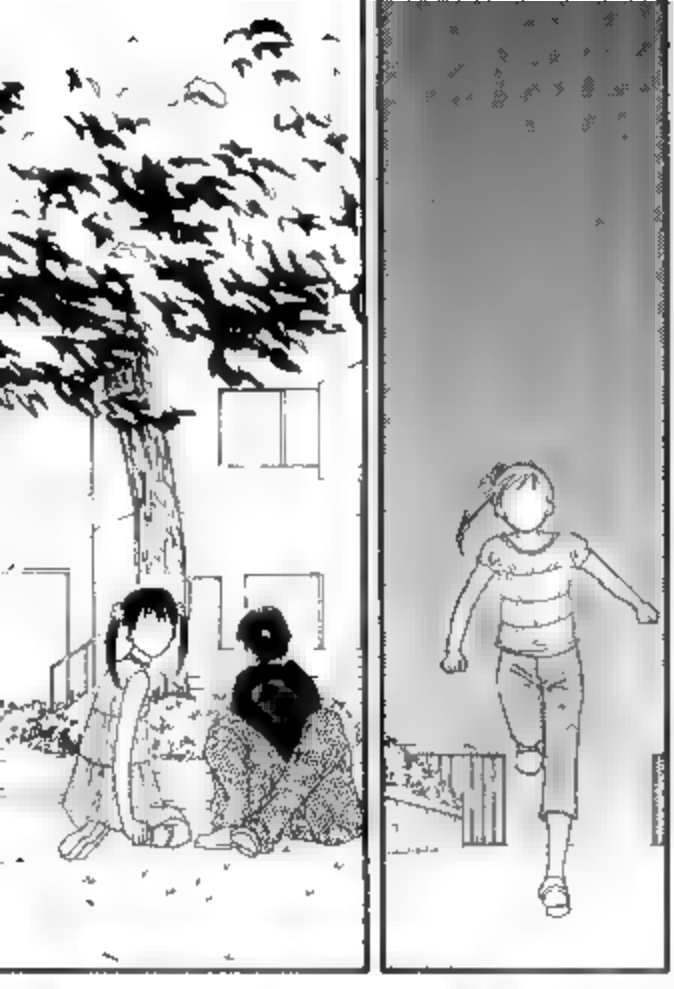
I CAN ONLY CRY.

THOUGH,
I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE WHEN THAT WILL BE...
IT'S OKAY. YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
SEE, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL 'CAUSE I'VE BEEN IN THE SAME SITUATION BEFORE.
THERE WAS A GUY I REALLY LIKED IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WHO REJECTED ME.
EVEN AFTER THAT EXPERIENCE THOUGH, I STILL FELL IN LOVE WITH TAIYOU.

I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND SOMEONE NEW TO LOVE.
I KNOW THIS SOUNDS WEIRD COMING FROM ME, BUT...
SHE'S SO WARM
NO, I WON'T.
YES, YOU WILL! YOU'LL GET OVER HIM EVENTUALLY.
NO! I ONLY WANT TAIYOU!
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU CAN'T HAVE HIM!
What's going on over there?
What do you mean it isn't fair!?
I'M A NEW 1ST FAN!

I CAN FEEL THE BLOOD FLOWING THROUGH MY BODY AGAIN...
ARE YOU OKAY? CAN YOU MAKE IT HOME BY YOURSELF?
NOD
YEAH.
DON'T GO OFF WITH ANY MORE STRANGE GUYS.
...
BOY, WE LOOK TERRI-BLE,
DON'T WE?
...YEAH.
OH, THAT REMINDS ME...
SAEKI-SAN SAID THAT A FRIEND OF HIS WAS MISSING AND HE LEFT IN A REAL HURRY.
MAYBE HE WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU.

Where did I see him last?
COME TO THINK OF IT...
OH,
HE'S PROBABLY WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU.
YOU SHOULD HURRY UP AND FIND HIM.
R-RIGHT.
TALK TO YOU LATER.
I'LL SEE YOU AT SOCCER PRACTICE AGAIN.
TAIYOU,
YOU CHOSE A REALLY NICE GIRL.
...
SEE YA.



TH...
THERE SHE IS!

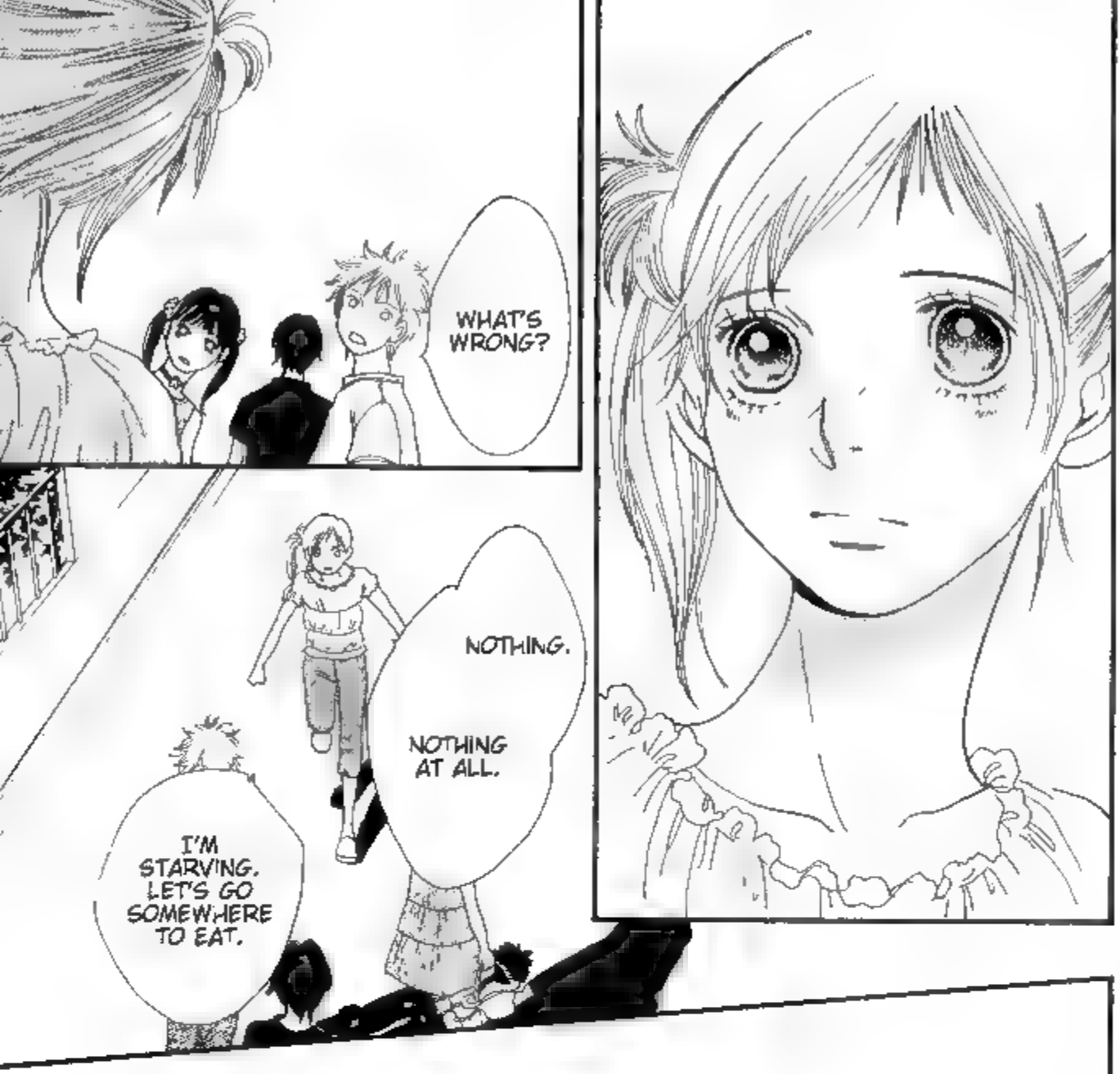
KEITO!

I LIKE YOU EVEN MORE NOW...

SOR--
WAAAH!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
YOU IDIOT!
WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN?!

KOUICHI SAID THAT YOU MIGHT TRY JUMPING TO YOUR DEATH, SO WE CHECKED A BUNCH OF TALL BUILDINGS.
THEN HE MENTIONED THAT YOU MIGHT ALSO TRY JUMPING IN FRONT A TRAIN, SO WE WENT TO THREE TRAIN STATIONS.
THINK OF THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU!!
WHAT ARE WE TO YOU?
YOU KNOW WE'RE YOUR FRIENDS.

I'M SO SORRY.
SORRY.
SORRY.
YOU CRY LIKE A BABY.
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES
Cried in sympathy
I APOLOGIZED SO MANY TIMES THAT I LOST COUNT...
...AND THEN I CRIED SOME MORE.



EVEN WHEN I'M OLD...

I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER FORGET THIS NIGHT...

...THE NIGHT I TRULY CRIED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

Cat Street Jazz 7/Fin
Brought to you by Condensation/*chu*

Condensation
Variations

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translator: Elina
editor: loveBelieverXO
QCers: suey, Elina & Vanderguard
color by: bluejsea

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You'll get over him eventually

KEITO,
ARE YOU REALLY GOING WITH REI TO SOCCER PRACTICE AGAIN?
YEAH.
Are you a masochist or something?
You're crazy!
YOU'LL SEE TAIYOU AND HIS GIRL-FRIEND THERE!
YOU JUST FOUND OUT THAT THEY'RE DATING!
IT'S FINE.
I DON'T WANT YOU ...
...TO GET HURT AGAIN.

MOMIJI...
SEEING YOU FALL APART LIKE THAT WAS AWFUL.
I'LL NEVER CRY THAT WAY AGAIN...
I'M SAYING FAREWELL TO THE SELFISH ME!..
I'M FINE, REALLY.
SEE? I'M ACTING NORMAL!
I WON'T ACT AS IF IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD.
FOR GOD'S SAKE, PLEASE ...
...WHO DIDN'T REALIZE THAT HER FRIENDS WERE SEARCHING FOR HER

Nice workout!
Good job!
OH, HI, AOYAMA.
WE JUST FINISHED OUR MORNING PRACTICE.
BOO
HI. I CAME HERE TO GET REI.
NERVOUS
NERVOUS
YOU'RE HERE FOR SAEKI-SAN AGAIN, HUH?
WHY DON'T YOU ROOT FOR ME, TOO, ONCE IN A WHILE?
NO WAY.
YOU ALREADY HAVE YOUR OWN CHEER-LEADER.
SHE'S OVER THERE.
BLUSH
?!
H...

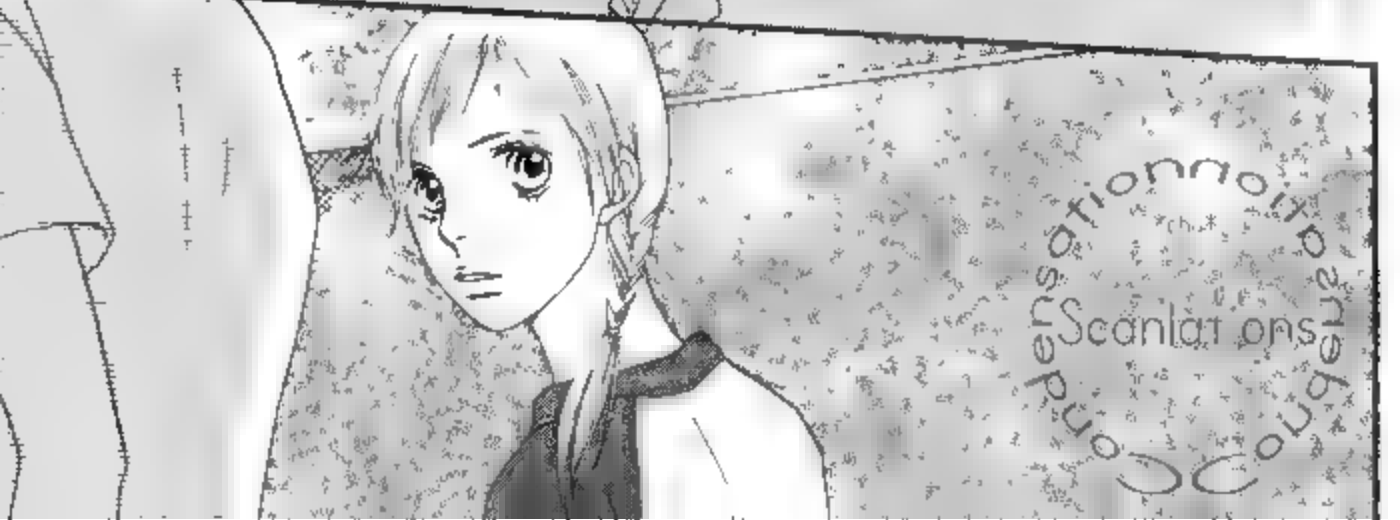
*Shinkon-san Irasshai! (Welcome! The Newlyweds) is an old Japanese dating game show.

WELCOME! THE...
YOU REALLY HAVEN'T WATCHED TV SINCE GRADE SCHOOL.
AND MY HEART ACHES...
BOO
GO HOME AND WATCH SOMETHING CONTEMPORARY.

*Suke-san and Kaku-san were two guards in the hit TV series, *Mito Koumon*, based on Vice-Shogun Tokugawa, "Mito Mitsukuni" (aka Koumon).

...BUT I'M OKAY.

I'M NOT ALONE ANYMORE.



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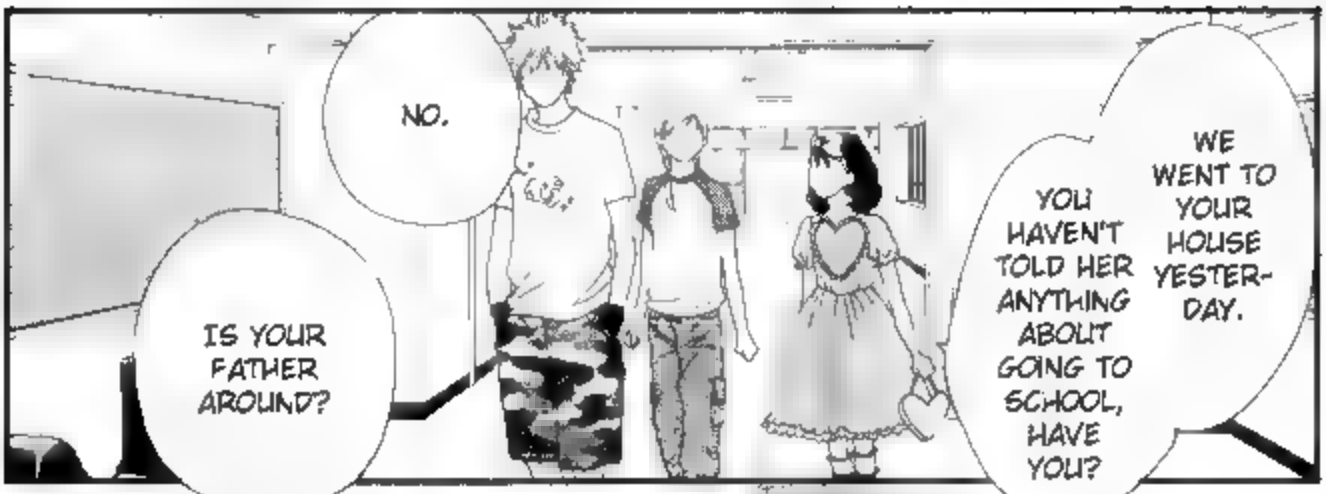
You get over
him eventually

I'LL MOVE
ON.

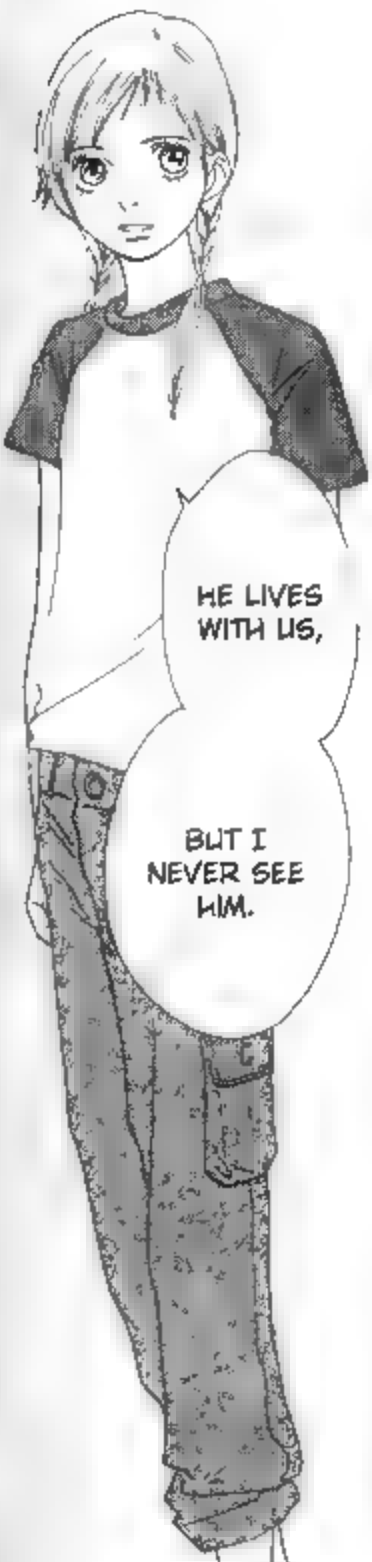
KEITO, YOU'RE AMAZING!
I'M REALLY IMPRESSED!
WHAM
YOU WERE GREAT!
Ouch.
I WAS SO NERVOUS.
ME, TOO! I HAD BUTTERFLIES IN MY STOMACH!

...MY LEGS WERE SHAKING.
I WONDER IF THIS PAIN...

...LEAVING ONLY A TINY SCAR BEHIND.
...WILL TURN INTO A SCAB AND DISAP-PEAR...
THAT RE-MINDS ME, DID YOUR MOTHER SAY ANYTHING ABOUT US, KEITO?
ALL I CAN DO...IS WAIT FOR THAT TO HAPPEN.


NO.
IS YOUR FATHER AROUND?
WE WENT TO YOUR HOUSE YESTERDAY.
YOU HAVEN'T TOLD HER ANYTHING ABOUT GOING TO SCHOOL, HAVE YOU?

I SEE. YOU HAVE A LOT OF STUFF GOING ON, HUH?

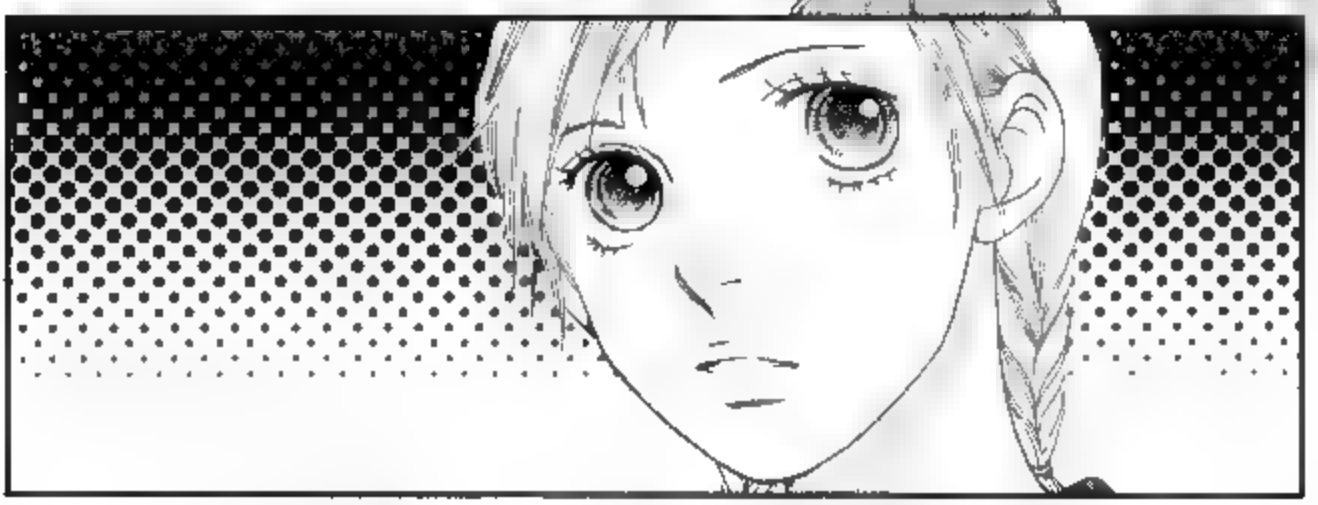

HE LIVES WITH US,
BUT I NEVER SEE HIM.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME...
...I CALLED MY PARENTS "MOM" AND "DAD"?

WHERE'S KOUICHI TODAY?
HE'S BEEN WORKING ALL NIGHT.
WORKING?
HE WORKS AS A FREE-LANCE PRO-GRAMMER
AND HE HAS A DEADLINE TOMORROW.
WOW... KOUICHI HAS A JOB...?
MAN, MORNING TRAINING IS ROUGH.
I'M GONNA TAKE A LONG NAP TO REGAIN MY ENERGY.
GOOD NIGHT
I THINK I'LL DO SOME SEWING.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KEITO?
IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN HELP YOU WITH?
NOT RIGHT NOW.
THEN, I GUESS I'LL HANG OUT SOME-WHERE.

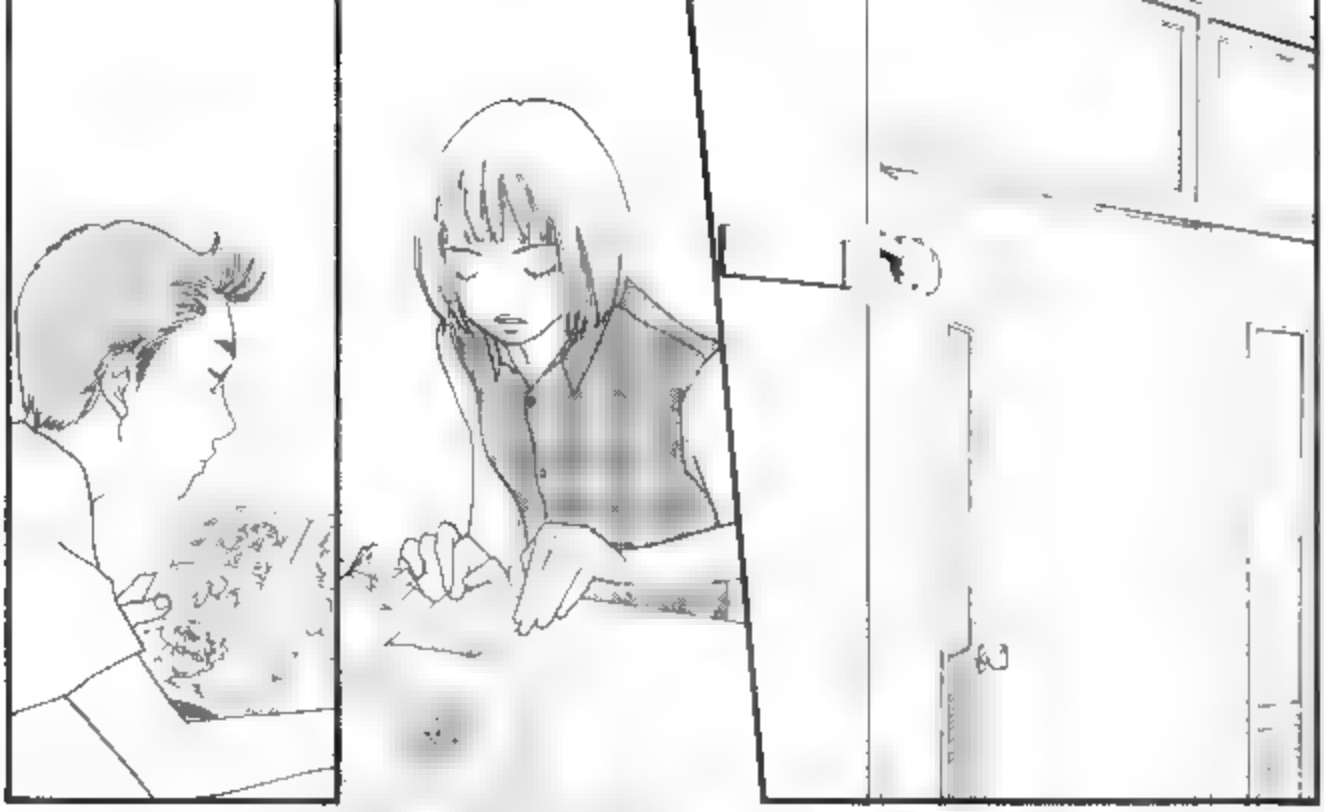
I'LL SEE YOU LATER!
OKAY.
...
OH, NO...
I SAID I'D HANG OUT, BUT WHERE? AND WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I-I GUESS I'LL GO TO THE LIBRARY.
...

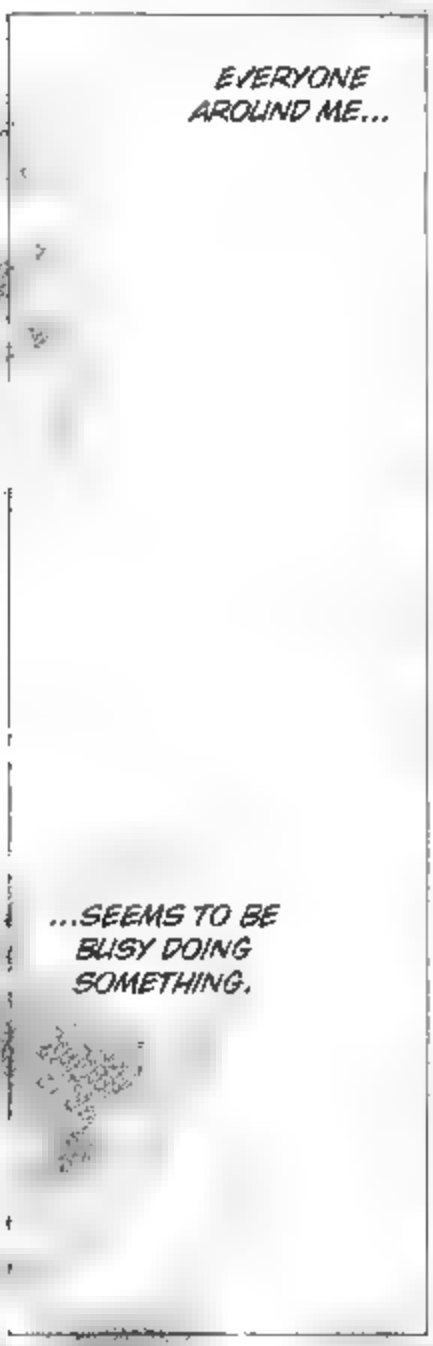
I can't read it
TOO MANY KANJI.
SHUT



THAT'S RIGHT. SOME OF THE STUDENTS HERE ARE STUDYING FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY EXAM TO GO TO COLLEGE.

IF YOU APPLY X IN THIS FORMULA, Y EQUALS 2, RIGHT?
OH, I SEE.

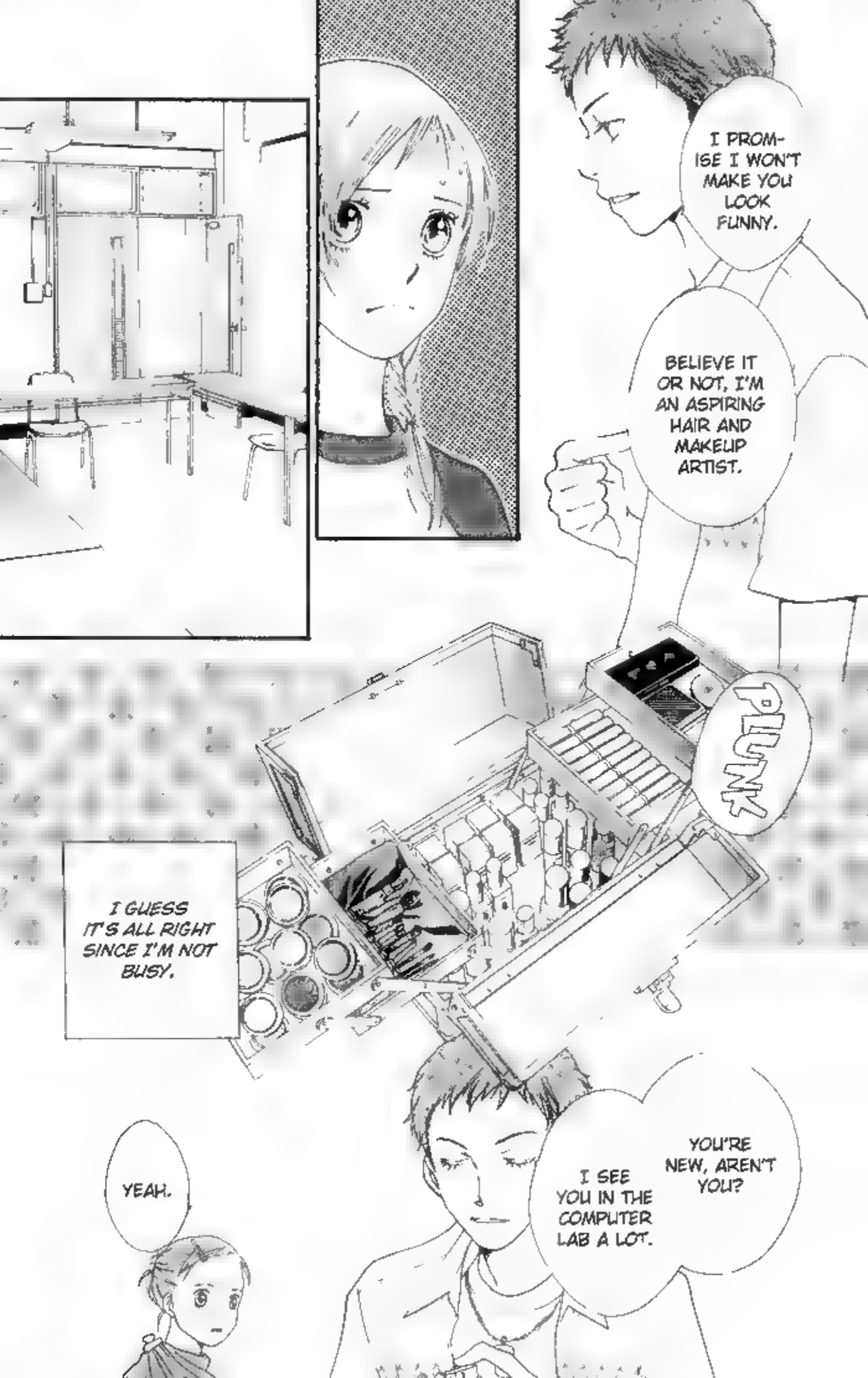



EVERYONE AROUND ME...
...SEEMS TO BE BUSY DOING SOMETHING.

OR SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO?
ISN'T THERE ANYTHING...
...I'M GOOD AT?
I'M BEGINNING TO THINK THAT'S THE CASE.
shiver
AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS NOTHING TO DO?
sfx: slip
AH
AHHH!

EEK!
WHOA...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, THANKS... THAT WAS SCARY.

...A GUY, RIGHT?
BUT... HE'S WEARING MAKEUP.
THAT'S...
HUH? YOU MEAN WITH MAKE-UP?
YES.
PLEASE BE MY MODEL.
CAN I GIVE YOU A MAKE-OVER?


I PROM-ISE I WON'T MAKE YOU LOOK FUNNY.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I'M AN ASPIRING HAIR AND MAKEUP ARTIST.
PLUNK
I GUESS IT'S ALL RIGHT SINCE I'M NOT BUSY.
YOU'RE NEW, AREN'T YOU?
I SEE YOU IN THE COMPUTER LAB A LOT.
YEAH.

MY REAL NAME IS MASANOBU, BUT I GO BY MAASA.
MAASA ...?

BY THE WAY,
I'M MAASA.

Let's get started.
IT SOUNDS FOREIGN.
SO DOES YOUR NAME.

SO, HAVE YOU ALREADY STARTED WORKING?
YEAH, THOUGH I DON'T HAVE MUCH EXPERIENCE YET.

MAYBE IT'S EASY FOR PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE ME.

I DIDN'T TELL HIM MY NAME...
...DID I?

RECENTLY, MY INSTRUCTOR STARTED WORKING EXCLUSIVELY FOR ONE CELEBRITY,
SO I HELP HIM OUT,
AND RUN ERRANDS FOR HIM.
HMM...
WHEN I'M NOT BUSY, I COME HERE TO STUDY.
STUDY?
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR BEAUTY SCHOOL,
SO I USE THE LIBRARY HERE TO STUDY WHAT I CAN ABOUT COSMETOLOGY.
HE HAS NICE FACIAL FEATURES.
HE'D MAKE A BETTER MODEL THAN MAKEUP ARTIST.
I SEE.
EVERYONE HAS A DREAM THEY WANT TO PURSUE.

NO.
YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO DO?
WHAT A SHAME.
YOUR FACE,
YOUR BODY,
AND YOUR LOOKS,
ARE A GIFT.

A GIFT?
A GIFT FROM GOD.

K-KEITO!
Y-YOU LOOK GORGEOUS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! IT'S AMAZ-ING!
Y-YOU THINK SO?
HE GAVE ME A MAKEOVER.
I KNOW YOU. YOU USED TO BE A MODEL, RIGHT?
A MODEL?
YEAH, I WAS.
YOU DON'T COME HERE VERY OFTEN, BUT I SEE YOU IN THE LIBRARY SOMETIMES.

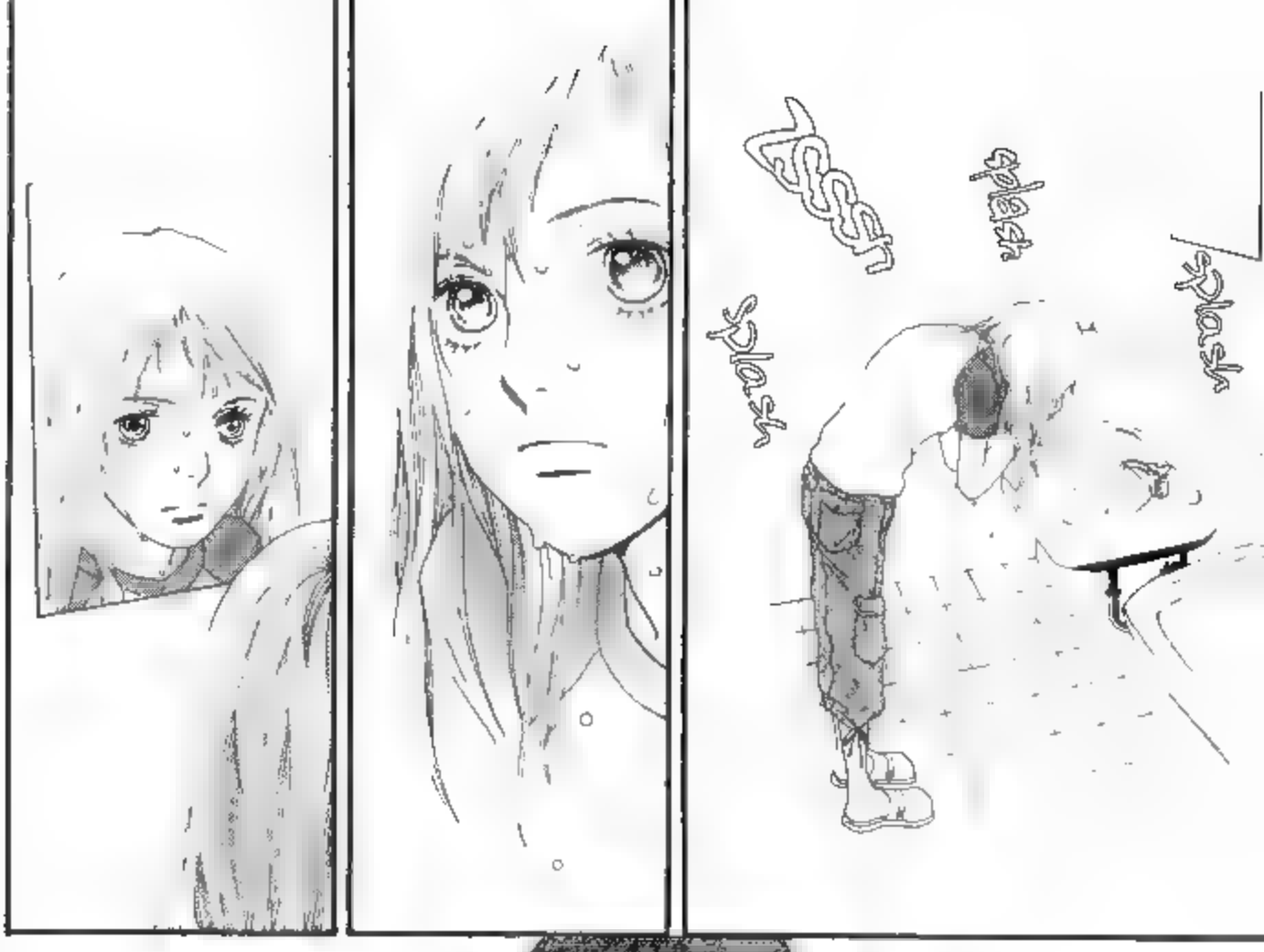
OH, CAN I TAKE A PICTURE?
I LIKE TO KEEP A RECORD OF MY WORK.
A LOT OF HAIR AND MAKEUP ARTISTS ARE FORMER MODELS.
YOU MIGHT SAY THEY GET BORED OF BEING IN THE LIMELIGHT, SO THEY QUIT AND WORK BEHIND THE SCENES.
WHOA!
YOU ALMOST LOOK NORMAL!
WHAT THE HELL?
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU'RE A BEAUTY!
DOESN'T SHE LOOK GREAT?!

Oh, shut up!
I FEEL AS IF I'M SOMEONE ELSE.
NOT THE GOTHIC LOLITA ONE. SHE'LL LOOK LIKE A FREAK.
WHAT?!
HEY, LET ME GET ONE OF MY OUTFITS SO YOU CAN TRY IT ON.
MAASA,
YESTER-DAY, SOME-THING HAP-PENED THAT MADE ME DE-PRESSED.
ERU,
IT'S MAASA.
OH, MA...

MAKE-UP CAN EASE ONE'S NERVES AND ALLEVIATE STRESS,
SO IT'S VERY GOOD FOR YOU WHEN YOU'RE DEPRESSED.
BUT...
I THINK YOU MADE ME FEEL A LITTLE BETTER.
THANK YOU.
FORGET IT. IT'S NO USE TRYING TO EXPLAIN IT TO HER.
HAH?
ALLEVI-ATE STRESS ?
I'm not nervous
I'LL GIVE YOU A MAKE-OVER ANY TIME,
WITH PLEASURE.
WELL, I HAVE TO BE AT WORK SOON, SO I NEED TO GET GOING.

WHAT A SHOW-OFF.
WHAT IS HE, A HOST?
HE SAID THAT HE'S GONNA DO THIS AS A CAREER.
HE'S REALLY SOME-THING.
"WITH PLEA-SURE"?
YOU PLAY SOCCER.
KOUICHI WORKS WITH COMPUTERS.
AND MOMIJI MAKES CLOTHES...
I WISH I COULD FIND SOMETHING FOR MYSELF.

OKAY.
GO BACK TO YOUR USUAL LOOK.
I'M GONNA WASH MY FACE.
IT'S STICKY AND I CAN'T STAND IT.
SHE PROBABLY FOUND HER CALLING TOO SOON.



A gift from God.

Your looks are a gift

Free Talk

There was a time, where for no particular reason, I didn't want to go to high school.

We'd often skip school and visit Enoshima to watch the ocean.

However, I think that I graduated high school because of the friends I had then. I still love them now.

I began to work on this manga hoping that I could draw with these feelings in my mind.

I will continue to do my best. It would be my pleasure if you would read my work again.

神尾葉子
Kamio Youko

WHOA!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHOA!"? WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?!
I WANTED YOU TO KEEP IT ON WHILE YOU MODELED THIS DRESS!
HEY! WHY DID YOU WASH YOUR MAKE-UP OFF?!

I DON'T EVER WANT TO GO BACK TO THAT WORLD.

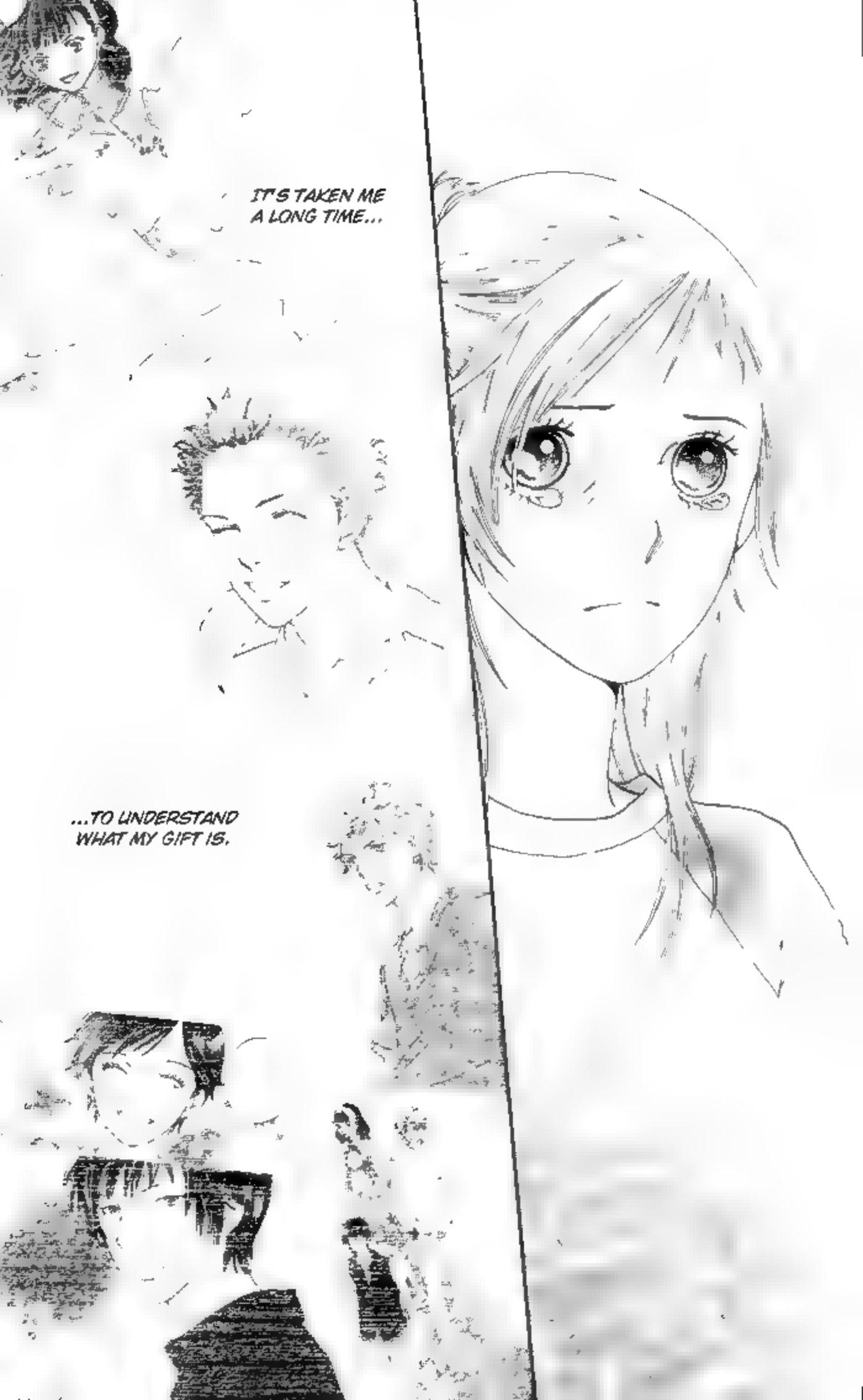
WHAT IS?
OH, DO YOU WANT TO GO TO KOUICHI'S PLACE TOMORROW? IT'S REALLY SOMETHING.
YOU'LL HAVE TO SEE FOR YOURSELF.
I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW.
BYE!
I'M ALL WORN OUT.
EXHAUSTED
SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED TODAY.
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO BED EARLY.

Startled
I-IT'S DAD!
THAT TOOK ME BY SURPRISE...
.. ESPECIALLY SINCE THE OTHERS WERE JUST ASKING ABOUT HIM TODAY
KEITO...

I HEARD FROM YOUR MOM...
THAT YOU'RE GOING TO SCHOOL NOW. IS THAT TRUE?
YEAH.
...I SEE.
WHEN DID DAD...
...GET SO OLD?

MY PARENTS FOUGHT MORE OFTEN.
AFTER I BECAME SOCIALLY WITHDRAWN,
AND CHIKA, WHO GREW UP IN THAT HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT, RESENTED ME BECAUSE OF IT.
DAD.
D...

WHY IS IT HARDER TO DEAL WITH MY OWN FAMILY THAN IT IS WITH STRANGERS?


IT'S TAKEN ME A LONG TIME...
...TO UNDERSTAND WHAT MY GIFT IS.

EVEN IN THE TWILIGHT,

I COULD SEE THAT DAD'S EYES HAD TURNED RED.

DID YOU RESTOCK THE MAC MASCARA FOR ME?
YES, I DID.
MAKE SURE YOU GIVE ME THE RECEIPT FOR IT LATER.
ALL RIGHT.
clack
EXCUSE ME.
'MORNING, MAASA.
GOOD MORNING. I'LL BE AT YOUR SERVICE TODAY.

THE PIC-TURE...
DID YOU GET IT?
YEAH, BUT IT ISN'T THE BEST, SINCE I TOOK IT WITH MY CAMERA PHONE.
THANKS.
LET ME SEE IT.

WOW,
SHE HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL.
WELL, SHE'S FAIRLY CUTE, BUT NOTHING EXTRA-ORDINARY.
YOU'RE THE GREAT SONODA NAKO.
I DON'T SEE WHY YOU'RE SO CONCERNED ABOUT HER.

THAT'S BECAUSE...

...I NEVER FELT LIKE I HAD A CLEAR VICTORY OVER HER.

Cat Street vol.08/Fin
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